

Alta East Wind Project

Toward a safe, clean energy future: Located about 3 miles northwest of the Town of Mojave, the Alta East Wind Project will utilize wind turbine generators to produce clean, renewable energy in southern California.

VITALS

Location: Kern County, California

Technology: Wind Turbine Generators

Electricity production capacity: 153 megawatts

Company: Alta Windpower Development, LLC,
Subsidiary of Terra-Gen Power, LLC, (San Diego, CA)

BY THE NUMBERS – the project is expected to:

- ✓ Generate enough electricity to power approximately 15,000 homes
- ✓ Create 262 construction jobs and 15 permanent operation jobs
- ✓ Encompass a project footprint of 59 acres of public land within the 1,999-acre BLM right-of-way and 22 acres of land under Kern County's jurisdiction.
- ✓ Generate an economic stimulus in the form of millions of dollars in sales tax payments during the construction period and \$76 million in property tax payments over the 30-year life of the project.
- ✓ Connect to Southern California Edison's Windhub Substation over a 5.5 mile generation-tie transmission line.



A SMART, COLLABORATIVE PROCESS: In September of 2011 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) committed to helping the nation reach its clean energy future by guaranteeing coordinated processing, full environmental analysis and public review for specific renewable energy projects where the company demonstrated it was ready to advance to the formal environmental review and public participation process.

STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND MITIGATION: The BLM works closely with federal, state and local partners, members of the environmental and conservation community, and other interested

stakeholders to advance environmentally sound projects. For the Alta East Wind Project, this process resulted in:

- ✓ A smaller project, with reduced wildlife impacts: the BLM and the USFWS worked with Alta Windpower Development, LLC to reduce the project's effects on raptors, other birds, and bats by reducing the number of wind turbine generators.
- ✓ Mitigation addressing recreation-related visual impacts: Project impacts to views from the Pacific Crest Trail will be minimized through compensatory mitigation requiring funds for acquisition of property along the trail corridor.
- ✓ The prospect of approximately 125,000 fewer tons of carbon dioxide being produced/released into the atmosphere with wind energy than would have been generated to produce an equivalent amount of energy from fossil fuels.

THE BIG PICTURE: The Department of the Interior surpassed the President's goal of authorizing 10,000 MW of renewable energy projects on public lands by the end of 2012. The State of California is working to achieve a 33% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2020. The Alta East Wind Project will strengthen the Department's and the State of California's renewable energy portfolios and will help bring California and the nation one step closer to a clean energy economy.